

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Each of the embodiments of the present invention supplies date information issued from a third party to a digital signature of a first user apparatus for an electronic document. Originality of the electronic document is ensured by applying the digital signature of the third party to a set of the digital signature and date information. No electronic document is transmitted to the third party apparatus during originality assurance of the electronic document. Accordingly, it is possible to decrease loads to the third party and associated networks even if the third party apparatus is congested with accesses. Since there is registered an undeniable signature for a second user apparatus, it is possible to prevent the second user apparatus from denying the reception.